

Joseph Chambers House
(Horatio Gates House)
157 West Market Street
York
York County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-5189

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PA
67-YORK,
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WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

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ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE Pennsylvania	COUNTY York	TOWN OR VICINITY York
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Joseph Chambers House		HABS NO. PA-5189
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE Horatio Gates House		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 159 West Market Street		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1751	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Unknown; original owner, Joseph Chambers	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) The house is, as restored, a fine example of English-influenced stone construction. During the Continental Congress' stay in York, the house was rented by General Horatio Gates. It was here that the Marquis de Lafayette helped to discourage the "Conway Cabal," which sought to replace George Washington with Gates as commander-in-chief.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) vernacular (English Georgian influences)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Coursed rubble on south and north facades, with brick gable ends		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) 2-1/2 stories; 30'-7" x 33'-5"; gable roof		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Pent roof between 1st and 2nd stories on south front; cove cornice.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) Center-hall plan; swinging partition hinged to ceiling opens to form large room on second floor (added 1770's; reconstructed 1961-64).		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES An 1830 drawing shows the house as 5 bays wide, with 2 doors and a bow window (for photo-copy of drawing, see HABS No. PA-5169); stone of front facade covered by brick during 19th century; 1st-floor storefront added in 19th century; restored (partially reconstructed) in 1961-1964.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Serves as a museum.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Listed on National Register of Historic Places. Burns, Deborah. Draft manuscript of HABS Pennsylvania Catalog.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Druscilla J. Null, HABS	DATE 7/5/84	